



de maximis, inc.

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July 15, 2009

VIA ELECTRONIC & US MAIL

Ms. Alice Yeh
Ms. Stephanie Vaughn
ATTN: Lower Passaic River Remedial Project Manager
Emergency and Remedial Response Division
U.S. EPA, Region 2
290 Broadway, 19th Floor
New York, New York 10007

**Re: Monthly Progress Report No. 26 – June 2009
Lower Passaic River Study Area (LPRSA) Remedial Investigation/
Feasibility Study (RI/FS)
CERCLA Docket No. 02-2007-2009**

Dear Ms. Yeh and Ms. Vaughn:

de maximis, inc. is submitting this Monthly Progress Report for the above-captioned project on the behalf of the RI/FS Agreement Settling Parties (Cooperative Parties Group or CPG) pursuant to the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (Settlement Agreement or AOC). The Progress Report satisfies the reporting requirements of Paragraph 42 of said Settlement Agreement.

(a) Actions which have been taken to comply with this Settlement Agreement during the previous month.

Meetings/Conference Calls

- On June 3, CPG attended the Quarterly PDT Meeting and provided a status of the LPRSA RI/FS activities to the stakeholders
- On June 16, EPA and CPG representatives met to discuss progress on the LPRSA RI/FS and to identify ways to improve communications
- On June 25 and June 30, conference calls were conducted to discuss EPA's comments on Fish/Decapod Tissue QAPP and the Problem Formulation Document.
- On June 30, EPA held a Remedial Options Work Group meeting to update stakeholders on the FFS Source Control Alternatives.

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- On June 15, CPG submitted the May 2009 Progress report to EPA.
- On June 19, EPA provided additional comments to the CPG's revised Risk Assessment Problem Formulation Document (submitted to EPA on May 15, 2009).
- On June 22, EPA provided comments to the CPG's Fish/Decapod Tissue QAPP (submitted to EPA on May 1, 2009).
- On June 26, CPG submitted the Draft Physical Water Column Monitoring (PWCM) Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) to EPA.

Work

- Data validation of the Low Resolution Coring (LRC) sediment samples was completed in June in accordance with EPA Region 2 validation criteria and guidance.
- CPG RI/FS team continues to review data from the LRC program including sharing the data with the CPG modeling team.
- CPG is drafting the LRC Site Characterization Report which includes a description of the field activities, submittal of field records, analytical data results and presentation and summary of data validation results and outcome.
- CPG completed a draft of the PWCM QAPP and submitted it to the EPA.
- CPG reviewed EPA comments and initiated revisions to the revised draft Problem Formulation Document.
- CPG reviewed EPA comments initiated revisions to on the draft Fish/Decapod Tissue QAPP.
- CPG initiated data management planning and coordination with laboratories participating in the Fish/Decapod Tissue sampling program.
- CPG Modeling Team initiated setup of the AQ-SEDZLJ Model.; prepared a memorandum for the EPA to support the development of a fine grid model; and continued work on the mercury and organic carbon modeling memorandum,

(b) Results of Sampling and Tests

- EPA Region 2 MEDD submittals of (1) data updates since their original submission, and (2) water levels during the LRC program, were provided as an upload to the PREmis web portal.

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(c) Work planned for the next two months with schedules relating to the overall project schedule for RI/FS completion

- The CPG is reviewing and performing QA/QC on the multibeam/single beam bathymetry data collected late in 2008.
- Completion of LRC data validation. Submittal of validated data set to EPA.
- CPG will finalize revisions to the RI/FS schedule.
- CPG will continue preparation of the LRC Data Characterization Report.
- CPG will continue preparation for implementation of the Fish/Decapod Tissue QAPPs in August.
- CPG will continue setup of the AQ-SEDZLJ Model.
- CPG will continue preparation for implementation of the PWCM QAPP in September.

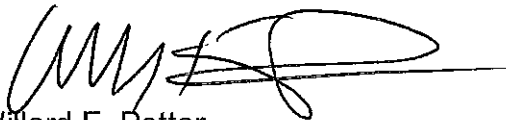
(d) Problems encountered and anticipated problems, actual or anticipated delays, and solutions developed and implemented to address actual or anticipated problems or delays.

None at this time.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Rob Law at (908) 735-9315.

Very truly yours,

de maximis, inc.



Willard F. Potter
Project Coordinator

cc: Pat Hick, EPA Office of Regional Counsel
William Hyatt, CPG Coordinating Counsel
Lisa Baron, USACE
Tim Kubiak, USFWS
Reyhan Mehran, NOAA
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